

IN THE CLAIMS

1-128 (canceled)

129. (previously presented) A medical implant comprising at least one ~~continuous,~~
~~solid spaghetti-like strand~~ strand-like silicone rubber element, wherein the silicone rubber is
physiologically compatible ~~comprising a physiologically compatible material surrounded by an~~
~~outer covering.~~

130. (canceled)

131. (canceled)

132. (canceled)

133. (canceled)

134. (currently amended) The medical implant of claim 129 ~~130~~, ~~having a~~ wherein
the surface of the strand-like silicone rubber element is wettable surface.

135. (canceled)

136. (canceled)

137. (canceled)

138. (canceled)

139. (canceled)

140. (canceled)

141. (canceled)

142. (canceled)

143. (canceled)

144. (canceled)

145. (canceled)

146. (currently amended) The medical implant of claim 144, wherein the outer surface of said element ~~spaghetti-like strand~~ is hydrophilized.

147. (currently amended) A medical implant comprising an outer covering containing therein at least one continuous, strand-like silicone rubber element, wherein the silicone rubber is physiologically compatible, solid ~~spaghetti-like strand~~ wherein the outer covering comprises ~~made of~~ a physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant.

148. (currently amended) The medical implant of claim 147, wherein said outer covering ~~implant~~ has a hydrophilized surface.

149. (currently amended) The medical implant of claim 147, wherein said physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant comprises silicon rubber.

150. (previously presented) The implant of claim 149, wherein the surface is hydrophilized surface and the lubricant is aqueous.

151. (previously presented) The implant of claim 148, wherein the fluid lubricant is aqueous.

152. (previously presented) The implant of claim 147, wherein the fluid lubricant is swellable.

153. (previously presented) The implant of claim 149, wherein the fluid lubricant is swellable.

154. (previously presented) The implant of claim 147, wherein the fluid lubricant is selected from the group consisting of a polysaccharide and a glucosaminoglycan.

155. (previously presented) The implant of claim 147, wherein a surface of the implant is hydrophobic.

156. (previously presented) The implant of claim 155, wherein said implant contains fat or oil wetting the hydrophobic surface as the fluid lubricant.

157. (previously presented) The implant of claim 155, wherein said implant contains fat as the hydrophobic surface as the fluid lubricant.

158. (currently amended) The implant of claim 147, wherein said physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant is a plastic.

159. (currently amended) The implant of claim 148, wherein said physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant is a plastic.

160. (currently amended) The implant of claim 155, wherein material said physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant is a silicone rubber.

161. (previously presented) The implant of claim 147, wherein said physiologically compatible material is polydimethylsiloxane.

162. (previously presented) The implant of claim 147, wherein said physiologically compatible material is a polysaccharide.

163. (previously presented) The implant of claim 158, wherein the plastic is cuprophane.

164. (previously presented) The implant of claim 147, wherein the physiologically compatible material has a foam structure.

165. (currently amended) The implant of claim 147, wherein an X-ray contrast medium or a dye is incorporated into the physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant .

166. (currently amended) The implant of claim 149, wherein an X-ray contrast medium or a dye is incorporated into the physiologically compatible material having a surface that is wettable by a fluid lubricant .

167. (currently amended) The implant of claim 130, comprising a plurality of the elements spaghetti-like strands.

168. (canceled)

169. (canceled)

170. (canceled)

171. (canceled)

172. (canceled)

173. (canceled)

174. (canceled)

175. (currently amended) A method of implanting a medical implant into a subject comprising implanting an implant consisting of a strand-like silicone rubber element, wherein the silicone rubber is physiologically compatible ~~continuous, solid spaghetti like strand of silicon rubber~~ in the desired site of a subject.

176. (previously presented) A method of implanting a medical implant comprising implanting the implant of claim 129 at a desired site of a subject.

177. (canceled)

178. (canceled)

179. (previously presented) A method of implanting a medical implant comprising implanting the implant of claim 147 at a desired site of a subject.

180. (previously presented) A method of implanting a medical implant comprising implanting the implant of claim 149 at a desired site of a subject.

181. (canceled)